



Natural Resources Conservation Service
6200 Jefferson NE
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109
Phone: (505) 761-4400 Fax: (505) 761-4462
Web site: www.nm.nrcs.usda.gov

February 25, 2008

NEW MEXICO BULLETIN NO. 290-8-01

SUBJECT: INV – 2008 NRI ANNUAL INVENTORY DATA COLLECTION ACTIVITIES

TO: All Employees

Purpose. To provide Field Office Staff information regarding the 2008 NRI data collection workload and procedures in New Mexico

Expiration Date. September 30, 2008

The collection of annual National Resource Inventory (NRI) data for New Mexico is underway. Data collected by the NRI teams and field office staff validate and augment the remote sensing data collection conducted from aerial photographs by the Remote Sensing Laboratory (RSL) in Portland, OR. The NRI data collected locally includes multi-year cropping histories, including when possible Farm Service Agency (FSA) records, verification of soil erosion factors, whether under an active Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) conservation plan, and whether under Wetland Reserve Program contract.

The support of local NRCS and the FSA personnel is essential to the efficient collection of this supporting data. Local visits to the field offices and FSA offices are necessary for many counties. Area or state office staff will coordinate with experienced field staff for the most efficient and accurate data collection. Contact and visits to the field offices will be staggered in February through early March.

New Mexico will inventory 457 segments (formerly termed 'Primary Sample Units' (PSUs)) having 905 points. All counties are included in this year's sampling except Los Alamos County. The list is attached. The number of segments per county varies according to land use and statistical stratification designs. The average county requires about 30 minutes to an hour per segment of field assistance to collect data. One of the NRI collection team members will perform the data entry. The deadline for New Mexico to complete the annual collection of NRI is **March 21, 2008**.

Gerald Stratton, Soil Scientist/NRI Coordinator, will provide specific instructions for accessing and completing the work as well as support. If you have any questions, please contact Gerald at gerald.stratton@nm.usda.gov or (505) 761-4490.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Dennis Alexander", is written over a horizontal line.

DENNIS ALEXANDER
State Conservationist